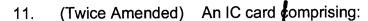


3. (Twice Amended) The frame kit according to claim 1, wherein either the first locking member or the second locking member has a locking claw, and a remaining one of the first locking member and the second locking member has an engaging hole with which the locking claw is engaged.



a frame fabricated from an injection molding material and defining an internal space of an IC card;

a first panel integrated with and embedded into the frame and having a first locking member which projects toward the internal space from an inner wall of the frame:

a second panel having a second locking member which is engageable with the first locking member of the first panel inside the frame, said second locking member comprising a guiding portion that extends obliquely toward the internal space; and

a circuit board assembly constructed by mounting a connector on the circuit board, the circuit board assembly being contained between the first panel and the second panel.



13. (Twice Amended) The IC card according to claim 11, wherein either the first locking member or the second locking member has a locking claw, and a remaining one of the first locking member and the second locking member has an engaging hole with which the locking claw is engaged.



23. (Amended) The frame kit according to claim 3, wherein the remaining one of the first or second locking members includes a guiding portion disposed forwardly of said engaging hole, the guiding portion extends obliquely toward the internal space to guide said engaging hole towards the locking claw.



Kiyoshi WASHINO et al. Application No.: 09/543,011

Sub ex

24. (Amended) The IC card according to claim 13, wherein the remaining one of the first or second locking members includes a guiding portion disposed forwardly of said engaging hole, and guides said engaging hole towards said locking claw.

25. (Amended) A frame for an IC card, comprising:

a frame body fabricated from an injection molding material and defining an internal space; and

an panel integrated with the frame body and having a first locking member which includes a portion that is embedded and held in the frame body, where a front end of the first locking members projects out from the implanted portion toward the internal space from an inner wall of the frame body.

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-30 are pending in the application. By this Amendment claims 1, 3, 11, 13, 23, 24 and 25 are amended.

The Office Action rejects claims 3, 13, 23 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The claims are amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-8, 21 and 25-30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Cox et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,191,950 B1). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Cox et al. teaches a printed circuit card assembly that includes a single-piece stamped bottom cover. The cover has plurality of tabs with each tab having apertures. A printed circuit card has a plurality of slots with each slot adapted to receive one of the tabs. A single-piece stamped top cover has opposite sides, a side rail on each side and the plurality of prongs extending from each side rail. The prongs are adapted to snap fit into the apertures in the tabs when the top and bottom covers are joined.